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OFFICIAL**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116--EXAMINING GROUP 1742

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT APPLICATION**

Application No.: 09/682,377
Applicant: Barber et al.
Filing Date: August 27, 2001
Title: **PREVENTION OF CONTAMINATION
ON PLATED WAFER SURFACES**

Atty. Docket: DE9-2000-0069-US1
Today's Date: January 13, 2004
Examiner: Wesley A. Nicolas
Group Art Unit: 1742
Fax: 703-872-9306

Amendments After Final Under 37 CFR 1.114

Amendment B

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated November 13, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the outstanding rejections and reexamination of the present application in light of the following remarks and amendments.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

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deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: Jan. 13, 2004

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transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office.

ANTHONY J. CANALE

Name

Anthony J. Canale

Signature

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